

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 02882 141310Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 HA-05 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02
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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2524
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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GENEVA FOR AMBASSADORS YOUNG AND WELLS AND LOIS
MATTESON

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PORG, UNHRC, IN, SHUM
SUBJECT: UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS -- PLACE
OF INITIATIVE IN 33RD GA

REF: A) NEW DELHI 9077, B) GENEVA 10586

1. ON THE BASIS OF AVAILABLE CONTACTS HERE, REFTEL A,
PARA 2 ACCURATELY DESCRIBES BASIC INDIAN POSITION,
REAFFIRMED AT GENEVA BY MEZVINSKY'S TALKS WITH MADAME
PANDIT AND AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S DISCUSSION WITH KUNDU.

2. USUN BELIEVES THAT THE BEST APPROACH TO THE
INDIANS IS TO FORMULATE A "GRAND DESIGN" FOR A FUTURE
SCHEME OF HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAMS AND AGENCIES IN THE UN
THAT WOULD INCORPORATE THE HIGH COMMISSIONER AS WELL AS
THE INDIAN IDEA OF NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN ONE PLAN.
WE WOULD URGE THAT WE COORDINATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF SUCH
A PLAN WITH THE GOI THIS SUMMER, THEN WORK FOR IT VIGOROUS-
LY AT THE UPCOMING GA. NEEDLESS TO POINT OUT, ANY ATTEMPT
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TO PRESENT ANY SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURAL REFORMS THIS
GA WILL BE BURIED UNDER THE OBJECTION THAT WE ARE
TRYING TO PREEMPT THE "OVERALL ANALYSIS" THAT IS
SUPPOSED TO BE CARRIED OUT NEXT YEAR BY THE HUMAN RIGHTS
COMMISSION UNDER 32/130. BUT SINCE ALL MEMBER STATES
ARE SUPPOSED TO PRESENT THEIR "COMMENTS" ON THIS PROPOSAL
"OVERALL ANALYSIS" BY OCTOBER 31, USUN PROPOSES THAT

1) WE DEVELOP OUR COMMENTS EARLY, AND 2) IMMEDIATELY CONSULT WITH THE GOI IN AUGUST OR SEPTEMBER IN NEW DELHI TO SEE IF WE CAN COME UP WITH AN AGREED GENERAL PLAN. ANYTHING THAT THE US AND INDIA PROPOSED WOULD PROBABLY BE ADOPTED BY THE HRC. WE THINK WE COULD DEVELOP COMMON POSITIONS ON SEVERAL KEY ISSUES, EITHER THROUGH A TEAM VISITING INDIA, OR CONSULTATIONS IN NEW YORK OR IN GENEVA DURING THE SEMINAR ON NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN SEPTEMBER.

3. WE SUGGEST THAT WE DISCUSS WITH THE GOI THE POSSIBILITY OF EXPANDING THE INDIAN CONCEPT OF NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS (WHICH MUCH RESEMBLES THE HELSINKI BASKET III MONITORING GROUPS -- AND HAS MANY POSSIBILITIES) TO INCLUDE THE CONCEPT OF NATIONAL SOCIAL AUDITING (I.E., THE MONITORING OF NATIONAL SOCIAL INDICATORS TO ASCERTAIN THE SYSTEMIC NEGLECT (WHERE AND IF IT EXISTS) OF BASIC HUMAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RIGHTS AND NEEDS.) THIS MIGHT MAKE THE CONCEPT OF AN AUTONOMOUS OR SEMI-AUTONOMOUS NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTE MORE ATTRACTIVE TO MANY NON-ALIGNED NATIONS. AT ANY RATE, SOME US POSITIVE RESPONSE TO THE INDIAN INITIATIVE WOULD BE GOOD WAY OF PREPARING THE WAY FOR GREATER INDIAN SUPPORT OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER, AND OF AN INTEGRATED DESIGN FOR THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAMS AND AGENCIES OF THE UN. LEONARD

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